



WELTMAN SUSAN C  
87 KABUL 1862

12/27/89 151801 PRINTER: WS

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MOMENT. SATISFY HIMSELF WITH THE REMOVAL OF THE MARXISTS. IT SEEMS LIKELY THAT THE MARXIST SUPPORTERS MAY TAKE THEIR OPPOSITION TO NAJIBULLAH AND HIS POLICIES UNDERGROUND. IN A STATEMENT ON THE EVE OF THE PARTY'S SECOND NATIONAL CONFERENCE NAJIBULLAH EXPLAINED THAT THE PARTY WAS PREPARED TO SHARE POWER WITH OTHER PARTIES IN A COALITION SCENARIO, "BUT NOT TO LOSE IT." HE WENT ON TO NOTE THAT THE PARTY "REMAINED THE ORGANIZER AND UPFOLDER" OF THE NATIONAL RECONCILIATION POLICY UNDER WHICH THE COALITION WOULD BE FORMED. KABUL WAS QUIET DURING THE WEEK UNDER VERY TIGHT SECURITY CHECKS WHICH TURNED UP A NUMBER OF BOMBS. MEANWHILE, SOVIET FORCES PRESSED FORWARD WITH THE DEVELOPMENT OF NEW SECURITY POSTS ON THE CAPITAL'S PERIMETER. DESPITE THE IMPROVED DEFENSES, SOME ROCKETS CONTINUED TO ZERO IN ON KABUL'S OUTSKIRTS FROM PACHMAN, THE SCENE OF INTENSE FIGHTING. A MAJOR SOVIET FORCE HAS DEPLOYED TO LOGAR WHERE FIGHTING HAS BLOCKED THE LOGAR ROAD MOST OF THE WEEK. IN

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KANDAHAR, SOVIET FORCES CONTINUE TO BOMBARD THE ARGANDAB AREA IN A CAMPAIGN THAT HAS LASTED OVER A MONTH. A LOCAL RESIDENT CLAIMS SOVIET FORCES HAVE USED CBW SEVERAL TIMES. THE KABUL TO KANDAHAR ROAD REMAINS EFFECTIVELY CLOSED AS COMMANDERS IN ZABOL AND GHAZNI COOPERATE IN HARASSING SOVIET AND DRA FORCES IN THE AREA.

5. (C) NOT TO BE BRIEFED TO PRESS: A MAN WHO CLAIMS TO BE A VICTIM OF CBW USE IN THE KANDAHAR AREA HAS GIVEN A BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE WEAPON. END SUMMARY.

3. (LOU) KABUL CITY DEVELOPMENTS: AFTER SEVERAL WEEKS OF STRONG MUJAHIDIN PRESSURE ON THE KABUL DEFENSE PERIMETER, ACCOMPANIED BY HEAVY, DAY AND NIGHT SUPPRESSION FIRE BY SOVIET ARTILLERY AND ROCKET UNITS, KABUL THIS WEEK SLIPPED INTO A PERIOD OF RELATIVE CALM. REGIME AUTHORITIES AUGMENTED SECURITY MEASURES IN THE CITY IN CONNECTION WITH THE HOLDING OF A PDPA PLENUM AND THE PARTY'S SECOND NATION-WIDE CONFERENCE WHICH CONVENED OCTOBER 18. FOR MUCH OF THE LATTER HALF OF THE WEEK THE NORTHWEST PART OF THE CITY WAS ALL BUT CLOSED TO VEHICLE TRAFFIC IN ORDER TO LIMIT ACCESS TO THE AREA OF THE KABUL POLYTECHNIC UNIVERSITY WHERE THE PREPARATIONS FOR THE PDPA SECOND PARTY CONFERENCE WERE UNDERWAY. SOVIET AND DRA TROOPS ON FOOT SUPPLEMENTED EXPANDED SARANDOI AND KHAD SECURITY AT KEY POINTS IN THE CITY. FIXED AND MOVING SOVIET ARMOR BACKED UP REGIME EFFORTS TO ENSURE SECURITY FOR THE CONVENING. BOMB SEARCHES YIELDED RESULTS AS A NUMBER OF BOMBS WERE DISCOVERED IN VARIOUS PARTS OF THE CITY. REPORTS SUGGEST SUSPECTS HAVE BEEN ARRESTED IN THE DEVASTATING OCTOBER 8 BLAST IN SHAH NAU. THE DOWN TURN IN MILITARY ACTIVITY AROUND THE CITY MAY REFLECT MUJAHIDIN NEED TO REST, REFIT AND RESUPPLY...THE SOVIETS... MEANWHILE, APPEAR TO HAVE DRAWN DOWN THEIR KABUL AREA FORCES SO AS TO SUPPORT A MAJOR OFFENSIVE IN LOGAR (SEE PARA 5). SOURCES REPORT THE FOLLOWING INCIDENTS IN KABUL:

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SSC-00 HA-09 L-03 TRSE-00 PM-10 RA-01 CMB-01  
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DS-01 DSE-00 P-02 T-01 /100 W

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O 190510Z OCT 87

FM AMEMBASSY KABUL

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7264

AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI IMMEDIATE

INFO AFGHAN WAR COLLECTIVE

AMEMBASSY KATEMANDU

USIA WASHDC 1906

DIA WASHDC

USCINCEUR WAIHINGEN GE

FT BRAGG NC AFVS//POE//SB

CINCPAC HONOLULU HI

CINCUSAREUR HEIDELBERG GE

HQ USAF RAMSTEIN AB GE

HQ USAF RAMSTEIN AB GE//INCO

USNMR SHAPE BE//INTAFF//

USCENTCOM MACDILL AFB FL//CCJ2-10M//

DEFENSE COMMUNICATION SUPPORT GROUP

RUCLENA/347 TFW MOODY AFB GA//IN//

AJFNSHB/USDOCSOUTH NAPELS IT

ASTC INTEL OPS CHARLOTTESVILLE VA//AIAST-10/CMI//

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 02 OF 05 KABUL 1862

-- OCTOBER 17: AN AFGHAN REPORTS THREE EXPLOSIONS, POSSIBLY  
BOMB BLASTS, BETWEEN 1800 AND 1815 IN NORTHERN KABUL.

--OCTOBER 16: THE REGIME MEDIA REPORTED THAT SECURITY FORCES  
DISCOVERED 316 KGS OF PLASTIC EXPLOSIVES IN KABUL'S SUBURBS.  
AT APPROXIMATELY 2100, DIPLOMATS HEARD A PROTRACTED SHOOTOUT IN

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SHARP NAU BETWEEN AT LEAST TWO POINTS LOCATED IN THE AREA  
SOUTHWEST OF JAMURIAT HOSPITAL.

--OCTOBER 15: THE REGIME ANNOUNCED THAT A 114 KG BOMB WAS

DISCOVERED IN A TAXI IN THE CITY.

--OCTOBER 14: AN AFGHAN REPORTS REGIME AUTHORITIES DISCOVERED  
THREE BOMBS INSIDE THE STATE TRADE BANK.

--OCTOBER 12: AT APPROXIMATELY 1500 A SINGLE ROCKET IMPACTED  
NEAR THE POLYTECHNIC UNIVERSITY (PRIOR TO THE GATHERING THERE  
OF PARTY OFFICIALS FOR WORK ON THE SECOND PARTY CONFERENCE).

-- COMBAT IN THE PROVINCES--

4. (LCJ) KABUL PROVINCE: WHILE FIGHTING IN THE PROVINCE  
GENERALLY DIMINISHED, CLASHES CONTINUED TO THE WEST AND NORTH.

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A. KABUL WEST: ON OCTOBER 16, KUCHIS (NOMADS) WHO HAD BEEN MAKING THEIR SEASONAL MIGRATION FROM WESTERN KABUL PROVINCE TO NANGARHAR ARRIVED IN NORTH-EASTERN KABUL CITY WITH FIVE WOUNDED. THE KUCHIS CLAIMED THEY HAD COME UNDER ARTILLERY ATTACK, APPARENTLY BY SOVIET OR REGIME FORCES, AS THEY MOVED ACROSS THE PLAINS WEST OF KARGHA LAKE. THE KUCHIS CLAIMED TO HAVE LOST MANY PACK ANIMALS IN THE BOMBARDMENT. THEY TOLD KABUL RESIDENTS THAT FIGHTING CONTINUES IN THE AREAS OF CHANDAL BAI, DARIA BERTUT AND DARIA PAGHMAN. A RELIABLE MILITARY SOURCE REPORTS THAT SOVIET AND DRA TROOPS MOVED INTO THE HILLS WEST OF PAGHMAN IN EARLY OCTOBER, IN SEARCH OF MUJAHIDIN. ON OCTOBER 12, AT APPROXIMATELY 1400, JETS CONDUCTED ATTACKS AGAINST SUSPECTED MUJAHIDIN POSITIONS IN THE PLAINS BETWEEN KARGHA LAKE AND PAGHMAN. IN THE EVENING, THE SOURCE REPORTS 11 ROCKETS FIRED FROM TWO LOCATIONS IN THE AGHMAN PLAIN, IMPACTED IN KARGHA. A SEPARATE AFGHAN SOURCE CONFIRMS THE ATTACKS NOTING THAT TWO OF THE ROCKETS HIT A CADRE HOUSE IN KARGHA AND THAT THERE WERE FATALITIES.

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B. KABUL NORTH: ON OCTOBER 16 AND 17, DIPLOMATS OBSERVED MUZZLE FLASHES OF ARTILLERY AND HEARD AUTOMATIC WEAPONS FIRE THROUGH THE KHAIK KHANA PASS, POSSIBLY IN THE KARIZ MIR AREA. AFGHANS REPORT FIGHTING, OCTOBER 16, IN THE SHAKA DARA AREA. DURING THE WEEK, AN AFGHAN REPORTS MUJAHIDIN OVERRAN THREE POSTS NEAR ESTALIF.

C. KABUL SOUTH: AN AFGHAN REPORTS FIGHTING NEAR CHAHRASIAS NEAR THE LOGAR ROAD DURING THE WEEK. AN DRA SOLDIER ON THE ROAD SEVERAL KMS SOUTH OF KABUL REPORTED MUJAHIDIN ON THE ROAD 20 KMS TO THE SOUTH.

D. KABUL EAST: DIPLOMATS, OCTOBER 12, OBSERVED ORDNANCE IMPACTS IN THE DEH SABZ KHAS AREA, 0645.

E. (LCU) LOGAR: MULTIPLE AFGHAN SOURCES AND OBSERVATIONS BY DIPLOMATS INDICATE A MAJOR SOVIET-LED OFFENSIVE UNDERWAY IN LOGAR. AT 0515 AND 0540, OCTOBER 13, DIPLOMATS OBSERVED TWO SOVIET ARMOR CONVOYS, TOTALING OVER 150 VEHICLES, MOVING TO LOGAR THROUGH KABUL. THE CONVOYS CONTAINED 152MM SELF-PROPELLED GUNS, T-62'S AND VARIOUS ARMORED PERSONNEL CARRIERS INCLUDING SO 120'S (AIRMOBILE ASSAULT GUNS). A SECOND CONVOY OF APPROXIMATELY 150 SOVIET ARMORED VEHICLES AND TRUCKS CARRYING PROVISIONS HEADED SOUTH ON THE LOGAR ROAD BEFORE DAWN, OCTOBER 15. AFGHAN AND DIPLOMATIC SOURCES PLACE THE FIGHTING AT TC BANDI SOUTHEAST OF PUL-I-ALAM AT MOHAMMAD AGA. IT IS THE LATTER FIGHTING THAT APPEARS RESPONSIBLE FOR CLOSURE OF THE LOGAR ROAD FROM OCTOBER 12 THROUGH THE 16TH. A DIPLOMATIC SOURCE REPORTS TWO HELICOPTERS WERE DOWNED IN THE TC BANDI AREA, OCTOBER 11. SOVIET HELICOPTER MOVEMENT TO THE WEST AND SOUTH WAS EXTREMELY HEAVY DURING THE WEEK, PARTICULARLY ON THE MORNING OF OCTOBER 17, POSSIBLY IN SUPPORT OF LOGAR OPERATIONS.

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ACTION NEA-11

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INRE-00 RP-10 ACDA-12 SP-02 SNP-01 C-01 PHS-01  
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O 190510Z OCT 87

FM AMEMBASSY KABUL

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7265

AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI IMMEDIATE

INFO AFGHAN WAR COLLECTIVE

AMEMBASSY KATHMANDU

OSIA WASHDC 1907

DIA WASHDC

USCINCPAC VAHINGEN GE

FT BRAGG NC AFVS//POE//SB

CINCPAC HONOLULU HI

CINCSARPUR HEIDELBERG GE

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C C N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 03 OF 05 KABUL 1862

3. (LCC) KANDAHAR: RECENT TRAVELLERS TO KANDAHAR REPORT THE CITY RESEMBLES BEIRUT WITH SOME AREAS EXHIBITING ONLY MINOR DAMAGE AND OTHER AREAS TOTALLY DEVASTATED. AT NIGHT, SMALL ARMS FIRE IS INCESSANT WITH TRACERS VISIBLE IN ALL DIRECTIONS. DURING THE DAY, RECENT VISITORS WERE REFUSED PERMISSION TO VISIT

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SOME AREAS MORE THAN ONCE BECAUSE, AS THEIR GUIDE EXPLAINED, "NOW THAT THE MUJAHIDIN KNOW YOU ARE IN THE AREA, IF YOU GO BACK THEY MAY BE WAITING FOR YOU." THE KANDAHAR CITY PARTY

APPEARS TO HAVE A LARGE NUMBER OF TAJIKS, NOTWITHSTANDING THE CITY'S OVERWHELMINGLY PASHTOON POPULATION. OUTSIDE THE CITY, FIGHTING IS INTENSE IN THE ARGANDAB AREA NORTHWEST OF THE CITY (31°39'N 65°39'E) AND IN THE SENJARAY AREA (31°37'N 65°33'E). NEAR ARGANDAB SOVIET FORCES HAVE ESTABLISHED 11 ARTILLERY POSTS WHICH RING THE AREA. THE POSTS, ACCORDING TO A LOCAL RESIDENT, HAVE BEEN BOMBARDING THE AREA FOR APPROXIMATELY ONE MONTH. ON TWO TO THREE OCCASIONS, ACCORDING TO THE LOCAL RESIDENT, SOVIET FORCES HAVE EMPLOYED A NON-LETHAL CHEMICAL OR BIOLOGICAL AGENT

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(SEE PARA 17). REPORTEDLY, SEVERAL THOUSAND MUJAHIDIN REMAIN  
EUG IN IN THE ARGANDAB. THEIR SUPPLY SITUATION AS OF EARLY  
OCTOBER REPORTEDLY WAS DIFFICULT BUT MANAGEABLE, WITH THEIR MOST  
URGENT NEED BEING SURFACE TO AIR MISSILES. A DIPLOMATIC SOURCE  
REPORTS THAT MUJAHIDIN ATTACKED A DRA POST IN PANJUAH OCTOBER  
10, KILLING EIGHT.

7. (LCU) GHAZNI: A TRAVELLER FROM THE AREA REPORTS THAT THE  
KABUL TO KANDAHAR ROAD IS EFFECTIVELY BLOCKED NEAR MOGOR WHERE  
A MUJAHIDIN COMMANDER NAMED ASSADULLAH COMMANDS A SIGNIFICANT  
FORCE. REPORTEDLY, HE COOPERATES CLOSELY WITH MULLAH MALANG  
(THE WELL-KNOWN KANDAHAR AREA COMMANDER) WHO COMMANDS TROOPS IN  
ZABUL TO THE SOUTH (SEE PARA 9). A SEPARATE AFGHAN SOURCE  
REPORTS THAT, EARLIER THIS MONTH, MUJAHIDIN AMBUSHED A DRA  
CONVOY AT QARABAGH DESTROYING TWO ARMORED VEHICLES AND SEIZING  
TWO TRUCKS. IN THE ENGAGEMENT ONE MUJAHID WAS KILLED AND TWO  
WERE WOUNDED. ON OCTOBER 9, AT JAWGARI SOUTHEAST OF GHAZNI  
CITY, MUJAHIDIN DESTROYED THREE ARMORED VEHICLES AND KILLED 12

DRA TROOPS.

8. (LCU) PARWAN: A DIPLOMAT OF UNTESTED RELIABILITY REPORTS

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ON THE NIGHT OF OCTOBER 5, MUJAHIDIN OVERRAN THREE SOVIET POSTS  
NEAR BAGRAM AIRBASE, KILLING 30 SOVIET TROOPS. (THIS REPORT IS  
UNCO FIRMED.) DURING THE SECOND WEEK OF OCTOBER, AN AFGHAN  
REPORTS, MUJAHIDIN OVERRAN THREE DRA POSTS NEAR KAPISA.  
FINALLY, THERE IS AN UNCORROBORATED REPORT THAT SOVIET AND DRA  
TROOPS ARE PULLING BACK FROM THE PANJSHIR. IT IS UNCLEAR HOW  
EXTENSIVE THE REPORTED DRAWDOWN OF FORCES IS.

9. (LOU) ZABUL: AN AFGHAN FROM THE AREA REPORTS THAT MULLAH  
MALANG, THE KANDAHAR COMMANDER, IS ACTIVE IN THE QALAT AREA AND  
THAT HE COOPERATES WITH COMMANDER ASSADULLAH TO THE NORTH IN  
THE MOGOR AREA. TOGETHER, THEIR TROOPS HAVE MADE TRAVEL ALONG  
THE KABUL TO KANDAHAR AREA VERY HAZARDOUS FOR SOVIET/DRA TROOPS.

10. (LOU) BALKH: AN AFGHAN FROM THE AREA CLAIMS THAT IN  
MID-SEPTEMBER A SOVIET FIXED WING AIRCRAFT CRASHED NEAR  
HAIRATAN KILLING 45 PERSONS.

11. (LOU) PAKTIA: AN AFGHAN SOURCE CLAIMS THAT IN  
LATE-SEPTEMBER A FIXED WING DRA AIRCRAFT CRASHED AND BURNED AT  
ABOBT AIRPORT.

12. (LOU) FARAH: A DIPLOMAT OF UNTESTED RELIABILITY  
REPORTS THAT IN THE PROVINCE, WHICH WAS RECENTLY DECLARED A  
"PEACE ZONE" BY THE REGIME, MUJAHIDIN DESTROYED THREE TANAS ON  
SEPTEMBER 18. AND, ON THE 24TH, AT A POINT FOUR KMS NORTH OF  
FARAH CITY, MUJAHIDIN DESTROYED A MILITARY TRUCK.

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	SSO-00	HA-09	L-03	TRSE-00	PM-10	PA-01	OMs-01
	INRE-00	RP-10	ACLA-12	SP-02	SNP-01	C-01	PRS-01
	DS-01	DSR-00	P-02	T-01	/100 W		

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FM AMEMBASSY KABUL

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7266

AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI IMMEDIATE

INFO AFGHAN WAR COLLECTIVE

AMEMBASSY KATHMANDU

OSIA WASHDC 1908

DIA WASHDC

USCINCPAC VAHINGEN GE

FT BRAGG NC AFVS//POE//SB

CINCPAC HONOLULU HI

CINCUSAREUR HEIDELBERG GE

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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 04 OF 05 KABUL 1862

13. (LOU) NIMROZ: A DIPLOMAT OF UNKNOWN RELIABILITY

CLAIMS THAT, ON SEPTEMBER 26, MUJAHIDIN ATTACKED TWO DRA POSTS

KILLING EIGHT DRA TROOPS. (COMMENT: THE REGIME RECENTLY ALSO

DECLARED NIMROZ A "PEACE ZONE." BOTH NIMROZ AND FARAH --THE

ONLY OTHER PROVINCE-WIDE "PEACE ZONE"--BORDER IRAN. REGIME

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DECLARATION OF PEACE MAY BE INTENDED TO REINFORCE SOVIET  
GESTURES TO IRAN.).

14. (LOU) POLITICAL DEVELOPMENTS:

A. NAJIBULLAH PURGES REMAINING BABRAKISTS: IN A BOLD STROKE,

NAJIBULLAH HAS REMOVED FROM THE PDPA CENTRAL COMMITTEE MOST OF  
HIS SENIOR OPPONENTS WITHIN HIS OWN PARCHAM WING. REMOVAL OF  
MUHAMMAD BAYALAI AND ANAHITA KATEBZAD ALONG WITH NINE OTHER  
CENTRAL COMMITTEE MEMBERS APPEARS TO ELIMINATE BABRAK KARMAI'S  
INFLUENCE FROM THE SENIOR RANKS OF THE PARTY. IT ALSO  
ELIMINATES THE PRINCIPAL POLITICAL OPPOSITION TO NAJIBULLAH  
WITHIN THE PARCHAM WING. NAJIB'S ACTION IS IN SHARP  
CONTRAST WITH HIS EARLIER CAUTIOUS APPROACH TOWARD THE

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"BABAKISTS". PREVIOUSLY HE HAD SOUGHT TO BUILD HIS OWN STRENGTH WITHIN THE PARTY BY INTRODUCING HIS OWN SUPPORTERS INTO THE RANKS OF THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE WHILE AT THE SAME TIME PUSHING HIS OPPOSITION DOWN BUT NOT OUT. BOTH ANAHITA AND KARMAHIMSELF INITIALLY LOST ONLY THEIR POLITBURO STANDING, RETAINING THEIR MEMBERSHIP IN THE PDPA CC WHERE, AS AN EAST EUROPEAN DIPLOMAT EXPLAINED, THEY WERE STILL SUBJECT TO PARTY DISCIPLINE. NAJIBULLAH'S CAUTIOUS APPROACH, THE COMMON WISDOM CLAIMED, WAS IN PART DIRECTED BY THE SOVIETS WHO PERSEVERED IN WHAT NOW APPEARS TO HAVE BEEN A FUTILE QUEST FOR PARTY UNITY. NAJIBULLAH'S DECISIVENESS AND RATIONALE ARE REFLECTED IN HIS BRIEF EXPLANATION OF THE ACTION: HE NOTED: "...OUR PARTY CONSTITUTION REQUIRES ENSURING OF (A) PROPORTION OF DEMOCRACY WITH CENTRALISM. BUT THE INABILITY OF SOME PARTY MEMBERS TO PRACTICALLY FULFILL THIS DEMAND IS MANIFESTED... DEMOCRACY HAS NOTHING IN COMMON WITH INDIVIDUALISM. ANARCHY AND INDISCIPLINE." IT IS UNCLEAR WHETHER HIS NEW, TOUGH LINE TOWARD HIS OPPONENTS WILL EXTEND TO THE KHALQI WING AND ITS

LEADER GULABZOI, A FAR MORE FORMIDABLE ADVERSARY THAN THE

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REMANANT KARMAHIMISTS (SEE BELOW).

B. RUMORS OF KHALQI-PARCHAMI DIVISION: THERE ARE RUMORS OF DISSENSION BETWEEN KHALQI AND PARCHAMI FACTION MEMBERS WITH HINTS THAT ANIMOSITY MAY EXTEND TO THE SENIOR LEVELS IN BOTH FACTIONS. A RUMOR REPORTED REUTEL, WHICH SUGGESTED A DISPUTE OVER WHETHER KHALQI FACTION LEADER (POLITBURO MEMBER AND MINISTER OF THE INTERIOR) GULABZOI SHOULD BE ALLOWED TO RETAIN HIS SARANDOI BODY GUARD (DRAWN FROM HIS OWN MINISTRY SECURITY PERSONNEL) HAS BEEN CONFIRMED AS FACT. AFGHAN SOURCES REPORT A BRAWL BETWEEN SARANDOI AND KHAD-MILITARY (KHAD-I-NAZAMI) AT THE AIRPORT DURING THE WEEK. A SEPARATE REPORT CLAIMS MANY KHAD PERSONNEL RECENTLY WERE DISMISSED IN WHAT SOME CLAIM IS AN ONGOING EFFORT TO CLEANSE THE ORGANIZATION OF NAJIBULLAH'S OPPONENTS. MOST ANALYSTS BELIEVE THAT FOR THE TIME BEING, SOVIET INSISTANCE AND NAJIBULLAH'S POLITICAL REQUIREMENTS WILL INDUCE HIM TO CONTINUE TO CO-EXIST WITH HIS KHALQI RIVALS.

C. PDPA WILLING TO "SHARE POWER BUT NOT LOSE IT": IN A REFERENCE TO PDPA WILLINGNESS TO COMPROMISE WITH ITS OPPOSITION, NAJIBULLAH, IN THE REGIME MEDIA OCTOBER 18, STATED THAT "THE PDPA IS WILLING TO SHARE POWER IN A COALITION UNDER MULTI-PARTY CONDITIONS BUT NOT TO LOSE IT." HE ADDED: "THE PDPA IS THE LEADING FORCE IN THE COUNTRY...THE ROLE OF THE PDPA IN THE IMPLEMENTATION OF NATIONAL RECONCILIATION HASN BEEN WRITTEN INTO THE DRAFT CONSTITUTION...IT MEANS THAT THE PDPA IS THE ORGANIZER AND UPHOLDER OF THE (NATIONAL RECONCILIATION) POLICY." THIS APPEARS TO BE A HARD-LINE ADVOCATING CONTINUED MAINTENANCE OF PDPA HEGEMONY IS SHELLED OUT IN THE CURRENT DRAFT CONSTITUTION. IT IS NOT CLEAR WHETHER THIS IS SIMPLY TACTICAL -- TO SUBDUCE OPPONENTS OF NATIONAL RECONCILIATION AT

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THE PARTY CONFERENCE, OR WHETHER IT REPRESENTS A MORE  
FUNDAMENTAL LONG-TERM PROJECTION OF A TRULY BALANCED COALITION  
IN THE WAKE OF ANY SOVIET WITHDRAWAL.  
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	INRE-00	RP-10	ACDA-12	SP-02	SNP-01	C-01	PRS-01
	DS-01	DSE-00	P-02	T-01	/100 W		

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FM AMEMBASSY KABUL

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7267

AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI IMMEDIATE

INFO AFGHAN WAR COLLECTIVE

AMEMBASSY KATHMANDU

USIA WASHDC 1909

DIA WASHDC

USCINCEUR VAHINGEN GE

BT BRAGG NC AFVS//POE//SB

CINCPAC HONOLULU HI

CINCUSAREUR HEIDELBERG GE

HQ USAF RAMSTEIN AB GE

HQ USAF RAMSTEIN AB GE//INIO

USMR SHAPE BE//INTAFF//

USCINCOM MACDILL AFB FL//CCJ2-10M//

DEFENSE COMMUNICATION SUPPORT GROUP

RUCLENA/347 TFW MOODY AFB GA//I //

RUFENSEE/USDOCSOUTH NAPELS IT

FSTC INTEL OPS CHARLOTTESVILLE VA//AIAST-10/CMI//

C C N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 05 OF 05 KABUL 1862

D. DRA OFFICIAL CONTRADICTS SOVIET OFFICIALS: SENIOR

OFFICIALS IN THE DRA MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS HAVE

CONTRADICTED SOVIET CHARGES CARRIED IN THE SOVIET MEDIA THAT

THE AREA IN WHICH SOVIET FORCES DETAINED JOURNALISTS AND

DIPLOMATS OCTOBER 19 WAS "A SOVIET MILITARY INSTALLATION." THE

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DRA MFA, WHEN QUERIED, CONFIRMED THE AREA OF THE INCIDENT IS NOT A MILITARY INSTALLATION AND IS OPEN FOR VISITS BY DIPLOMATS

"SEVEN DAYS A WEEK." (COMMENT: THE SOVIETS' FALSE DESCRIPTION

OF THE AREA AS A "SOVIET INSTALLATION" MAY HAVE BEEN INTENDED TO SERVE AS AN EXCUSE FOR THE SOVIET ACTION IN COUNTERMANDING (TWICE) THE ORDER OF THE DRA MINISTER OF INTERIOR THAT BOTH THE DIPLOMATS AND JOURNALISTS SHOULD BE IMMEDIATELY RELEASED.) THE SOVIET STATEMENT ALSO FALSELY CLAIMED THAT SEVERAL U.S. DIPLOMATS WERE INVOLVED. IN FACT, ONLY ONE WAS ON THE SCENE. THE SOVIET STATEMENT FURTHER CLAIMED THAT SEVERAL SOVIETS WERE INJURED AS A RESULT OF THE ACTIONS OF THE AMERICANS. CHARGE. IN FACT THE ONLY INJURY SUSTAINED WAS TO THE CHARGE

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WEITMAN SUSAN C  
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HIMSELF WHO WAS STRUCK AND LIGHTLY BROUSED BY A PASSING JEEP.  
15. (LOU) MILITARY DEVELOPMENTS: SOVIET FORCES CONTINUE TO  
HARDEN POSTS THEY BEGAN CONSTRUCTING ON KABUL'S PERIMETER ROAD  
IN LATE SEPTEMBER. ALL POSTS NOW HAVE DOUBLE FENCES OF BARBED  
WIRE WITH INTERSPACED CONCERTINA WIRE, CAMOUFLAGE NETTING,  
STONE GUARD HOUSES AND GUARD DOGS. IN ADDITION, AN AFGHAN  
REPORTS SOVIETS ARE CONSTRUCTING THREE OTHER NEW POSTS: ONE  
LOCATED ONE KM NORTH OF THE SHAIR KHANA PASS ON THE SALANG  
ROAD; A SECOND NEAR AN EXISTING SOVIET BASE AT YAKADARA  
SOUTHEAST OF KABUL AND A THIRD TO THE EAST OF A LINE OF HILLS  
THAT INTERSECT THE JALALABAD ROAD APPROXIMATELY SEVEN KMS FROM  
THE AIRPORT. THE SOVIETS ALSO ARE CONTINUING WITH A  
EXPANSION OF THE PRINCIPAL SOVIET MILITARY HOSPITAL  
IN KABUL, ADDING THREE TWO-STORY BAY WINGS. THEY ARE ALSO  
CONSTRUCTING A LARGE NEW WAREHOUSE-TYPE BUILDING AT A BASE  
ALONG THE PERIMETER ROAD. DIPLOMATS HAVE OBSERVED  
FRESHLY PAINTED (NEW) AN-32 AIRCRAFT WITH DRA MARKINGS AT THE  
AIRPORT AND OVER KABUL.

16. (C) NOT TO BE BRIEFED TO PRESS:

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A. REPORTS OF CBW USE IN ARGANDAB: A KANDAHARI WHO LIVES NEAR  
THE ARGANDAB (SEE PARA 8) REPORTS THAT TWO OR THREE TIMES SINCE  
EARLY SEPTEMBER, SOVIET FORCES, NOW SHELLING MUJAHIDIN  
POSITIONS IN THE ARGANDAB, HAVE FIRED "POISON GAS" ROUNDS WHICH  
HAVE CAUSED ILLNESS BUT NO DEATHS. THE MAN DISPLAYED WHAT HE  
CLAIMED WERE WOUNDS FROM THE GAS WHICH COVERED MUCH OF HIS  
BODY. THEY CONSISTED OF SMALL PINPOINT BLACK, SCABBED SKIN  
ERUPTIONS WHICH APPEARED TO BE INFECTED. (SOURCE CONSENTED TO  
BE PHOTOGRAPHED BUT AFTER TWO SHOTS ABRUPTLY CHANGED HIS  
MIND.) HE DESCRIBED THE "GAS" AS GREY-BROWN. MEANWHILE, A  
SOVIET LIEUTENANT - COLONEL FLATLY DENIED, IN RESPONSE TO A  
QUESTION, THAT THE SOVIETS ARE USING "CHEMICAL WEAPONS" HERE.

17. MOSCOW MINIMIZE CONSIDERED. GLASSMAN

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